



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VIII

999 18th STREET - SUITE 500
DENVER, COLORADO 80202-2405
1262248 - R8 SDMS

AUG 9 1990

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY

Ref: 8RC

AUG 15 1990

Clifton A. Lake
McBride, Baker & Coles
Northwestern Atrium Center
500 West Madison Street, 40th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606

MONTANA OFFICE

RE: East Helena Site

Dear Mr. Lake:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has received the April 30, 1990 de minimis settlement offer submitted by you to EPA on behalf of American Chemet Corporation, in response to the General Notice and Demand letter EPA sent on February 28, 1990.

EPA has reviewed your offer of \$1,995.00 and has determined that it does not accurately reflect American Chemet's share of liability for response costs incurred at the East Helena site. EPA did receive a good faith offer from Asarco, and consequently, has entered into a consent decree with Asarco for reimbursement of response costs and performance of selected remedial activities for the Process Ponds Operable Unit. We are now in the process of completing the RI/FS for the remainder of the Site. Once the RI/FS is finalized and EPA has had an opportunity to thoroughly review the additional data collected at the Site, we will be contacting you to continue discussions concerning American Chemet's liability.

If you have any questions pertaining to this matter, please direct them to Suzanne J. Bohan, Office of Regional Counsel, EPA Region VIII, Denver, Colorado 80202, at (303) 293-1458.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Duprey, Director
Hazardous Waste Management Divisioncc: John Wardell, 8MO
Scott Brown, 8MO
Suzanne Bohan, 8RC
Michael Goodstein, DOJ